

Why is the Sunset Red?

MYP Year 1 Students

A long time ago, in Ancient Greece there lived an elderly man called Emos. He was famous for worshipping the gods and goddesses who stayed at the peak of the Mt. Olympus. The gods loved him because Emos spent all his life building a magnificent temple for the immortals. People from all corners of the city came to the Temple of Gods to pray and sacrifice food, animals, drawings or jewellery.

The Temple of Gods was set on a hill far away from the city and surrounded by a dark forest. People were afraid to enter the forest because they thought the woods were owned by Hades's evil, blood-thirsty creatures who would make horrible, screeching noises.

One day, Emos went to the temple to deliver a precious gift to the sky gods. He walked along the misty path carrying a golden statue. Hades was following Emos and caught a glimpse of the golden statue. Hades was full of jealousy because he knew that the golden figurine wasn't for him. Hades decided to stalk Emos and put an end to his life!

At the temple Emos was praying to the sky gods. Behind him he heard the door creaking closed. The room was dark and quiet. Emos turned around but saw nothing. From behind him, Hades appeared and tied Emos with a rope. Emos shrieked loudly but Hades silenced him and whispered in his ear: "If you scream one more time, I will cut your tongue off! You deserve to die, you rotten-hearted human rat! How dare you ignore my high position in the Pantheon! You will suffer from a slow, painful death. "

Emos let out a shrill scream and that's when Hades cut his tongue off with a sickle. He started to laugh evilly at his cruelty. First, Hades took Emos's eye-balls out with the

pointy end of the sickle. Next, starting with the legs, Hades peeled Emos's skin off. It was a long, bloody scene. Emos whimpered helplessly and let out his last breath. Hades fled to the underworld feeling satisfied.

After Hades was gone, the temple became deserted. At the same time Hermes appeared at the doorstep of the temple. He realized that something smelled fishy. Hermes entered cautiously and felt something squishy under his foot. He screamed as he bent down to find out what he had stepped on! Then he saw Emos's bloody body lying on the floor, with his skin looking like a big human-size chunk of raw meat. He was frozen, forgetting why he came to the temple, then he left the golden statue behind and swiftly rushed off to Zeus's golden palace.

When Hermes reached the golden palace, he couldn't catch his breath. He ran straight to see Zeus. Zeus was in another room taking a nap because he was tired from chasing nymphs the previous night. Hermes opened the door and burst into the room. Zeus was surprised to see Hermes in the doorway. Hermes stammered as he explained about the incident in the Temple of Gods. Zeus immediately called a meeting to discuss the issue.

When all the main gods gathered in the room, Zeus noticed that Hades wasn't present, which made him feel suspicious. Zeus sensed that Hades was the one who had committed this horrible crime. Zeus took off, sped to the temple to find evidence and when he arrived at the temple, he spotted Hades's sickle. Zeus took the instrument and returned to the meeting room.

When Zeus entered the room, the gods were anxiously waiting for him. He slammed the door open with rage, held the sickle up and screamed: "Hades!" In awe, the gods started to whisper among each other. Their noise grew

louder and louder and the wind carried the sound down to the earth so people could hear the gods! Up in the room Poseidon yelled to shut up and splashed the gods with water. The group stopped talking and stared at Poseidon. The gods realized that they need to punish Hades for killing Emos. The gods suggested to torture Hades, kill him, kick him out of the Pantheon and throw him into the river Styx. They finally decided to exclude him from all the meetings in the future.

After Hades was punished, the gods had to make a decision about Emos' s body. Despite being popular among the gods, nobody wanted to fetch Emos's corpse from the temple. The gods, however, agreed that Emos deserved to be respected and honoured. Athena bravely volunteered to go down to the temple and take Emos back up to Olympus. Just before Athena was ready to set off for the trip, Apollo screamed: "Aaahhthena! Wait! I know what to do! I can go instead of you because my chariot can quickly reach the temple and deliver Emos's body to Olympus." Athena thought about it and finally agreed.

When Apollo reached the temple, he was astonished to see flowers growing all over Emos's blood. Red, pink, yellow, purple and orange tulips, orchids, roses and narcissuses sprang from the corpse. He felt awkward and rushed to get the job done. He dragged Emos by the ropes that were still tied around him to his golden chariot. Apollo put Emos into his chariot and bound him to the side. The sun god hurried up back to the golden palace to get there before sunset. He whipped his horses with the reins and set off for his journey. When Apollo's chariot started to move faster, Emos's body rolled off the cart. From Emos, the flower petals spread widely across the sky and his blood splashed afterwards.

At the same time, Emos's brother Amos was praying in his house to his dead brother. Suddenly, he looked at the sky because he heard the crows shrieking in panic and circling high above the town. At first, Amos was surprised to see the sky bleeding but he relaxed as he saw gorgeous colors in the sky. There were warm autumn colors of pink, orange, yellow, red and the sun was shining among them. Amos caught a glimpse of a body far above the sky and sensed that it was his brother. Joyfully, he ran to announce this amazing news to the villagers and they all gathered in the amphitheatre to gaze at the marvellous sky. The news quickly spread all around Greece. From then on every day at sunset, people have admired the colors in the sky. And that's why people all over the world love watching the red sunset.